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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the devotees of Sri
4 Venkateswara Swami (Balaji) Temple of Greater Chicago on the
5 25th anniversary of the Temple; and

6 WHEREAS, Thousands of devotees from the Midwestern states,
7 especially from the Chicago area, used to travel to Pittsburgh
8 to have darshan of Sri Venkateswara swami; while the experience
9 was spiritually rewarding, the time and effort required to make
10 the trip was making it difficult for many to have his darshan
11 as often as their hearts desired; many felt a void in their
12 spiritual lives and their discontent was widespread; and

13 WHEREAS, As a result of the philanthropy of 9 families who
14 donated 20 acres of land with a farm house in Aurora, as a site
15 for the proposed Balaji temple, a beginning was made in the
16 realization of a dream; since Sri Venkateswara Swami (Balaji)
17 Temple is an institution that has to serve innumerable
18 generations to come, plans were drawn on a magnificent scale
19 related to the means available and the needs of the moment; and

20 WHEREAS, Padmasri M. Muthiah Sthapathy, a noted expert on
21 temple construction in India, collaborated with Sri Subhash
22 Nadkarni, a reputed architect of Chicago and a devotee of

1 Balaji, and together they designed the temple; the design is an
2 excellent blend of ancient Shilpa shastra and modern
3 architectural technology; the design also served as a model for
4 other temples that were built later in the United States; a
5 unique feature of the temple is provision for circumambulation
6 (pradakshina) inside the temple, not only around the presiding
7 deity, but around all the major shrines inside the temple; and

8 WHEREAS, The mission of the Temple is continuing and
9 promoting the highest values of Hindu culture, philosophy,
10 religion, spirituality, and tradition in their adopted
11 Homeland with benevolence, compassion, and tolerance; and

12 WHEREAS, The Grand 25th anniversary celebrations will be
13 held May 29-June 5, 2011; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate the devotees of Sri Venkateswara Swami (Balaji)
17 Temple of Greater Chicago on this momentous occasion and wish
18 them the best for years to come; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the devotees of Sri Venkateswara Swami (Balaji)
21 Temple of Greater Chicago as a symbol of our respect and
22 esteem.